programmed to transmit to suppliers a matrix showing desired products to be used in developing the mathematical models.

[c20] A computer programmed in accordance with Claim 19 and further programmed to transmit to the suppliers a spreadsheet of desired products into which at least one of the suppliers can enter pricing information.

[c21] A computer programmed in accordance with Claim 17 an further programmed to transmit to the suppliers a bid sheet.

[c22] Apparatus comprising:
means for receiving product listing and pricing information from multiple suppliers;
means for developing an initial regression equation for each supplier based on the received product listing and price information;
means for combining the initial regression equations for each of the suppliers into a combined regression equation for a product line; and
means for receiving purchase contract bids from suppliers.

[c23] Apparatus in accordance with Claim 22 further comprising means for transmitting to the suppliers the combined regression equation and the products to enable bids from the suppliers.

[c24] Apparatus in accordance with Claim 22 further comprising:
means for providing suppliers a matrix illustrating desired products to be used in developing mathematical models; and
means for providing a spreadsheet of desired products into which a supplier can enter pricing information.

METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR AUCTIONING PRODUCTS

Abstract of Disclosure

A method for facilitating the auctioning of a pricing model using a network-based system comprises the step of receiving product listing and pricing information data from multiple suppliers. The system includes a server and at least one device connected to the server via a network. The method further comprises developing an initial regression equation for each supplier based on received product listing and price information data and combining the initial regression equations for each of the suppliers into a final regression equation for a product line.

Figures